

REMARKS

Claims 14-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-13 have been canceled.

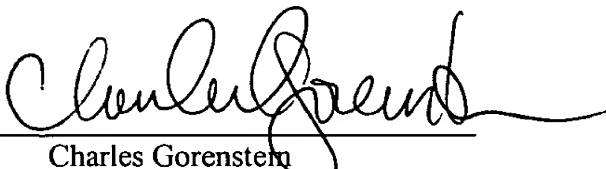
Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

In the event that any matters remain at issue in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact Jayne Saydah, Reg. No. P-48,796 at (703) 205-8000 in the Northern Virginia area, for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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